



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Hiroaki KUBO

Application No.: 09/556,308

Filed: April 24, 2000

For: CAMERA WITH FLASH EMISSION  
CONTROL

) MAIL STOP AF  
)  
) Group Art Unit: 2612  
)  
) Examiner: Kelly L. Jerabek  
)  
) Confirmation No.: 7095  
)  
)

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 21, 2005, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 5-7. The continued indication that claims 8, 9 and 11-15 are allowed, and that claims 3 and 4 contain allowable subject matter, is noted with appreciation.

The Office Action maintains the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over the Takagi patent (US 5,400,112) in view of the Yahav patent (US 6,445,884). In responding to Applicant's most recent argument traversing this ground of rejection, the Office Action concurs that the reception ranges of the sensors in the Takagi patent do not overlap one another. However, the Office Action interprets the recitation of "a common area on an image sensing surface" to read upon the entire exposure region 6 of the Takagi patent, and not merely the particular areas sensed by the sensors. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is not based upon a proper reading of the claim language.

In relevant part, claim 1 recites a plurality of light measuring elements that are provided at different positions and detect a brightness of a common area on an image sensing